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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER	
ZHEN, LI B	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2126	

DATE MAILED: 12/15/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/973,055	ZIMMERMANN ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Li B. Zhen	2126	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *25 March 2002*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-25,27,28 and 31-33* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-25,27,28 and 31-33* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *3/25/02, 1/29/02, 11/13/01*
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1 – 25, 27, 28 and 31 – 33.

Specification

2. The disclosure is objected to because it contains an embedded hyperlink and/or other form of browser-executable code [p. 12, line 9 and p. 19, lines 2 – 3]. Applicant is required to delete the embedded hyperlink and/or other form of browser-executable code. See MPEP § 608.01.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. **Claims 1 – 5, 8 – 16, 18, 20 – 22, 24, 25, 27, 28 and 31 – 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,529,936 to Mayo et al. [hereinafter Mayo].**

5. As to claim 11, Mayo teaches a method for executing a function on a data-processing object [each of the properties 52-52n provide an interface to one of the functions of the object 50, Fig. 5; col. 7, lines 61 – 67] which can be used, via a server station [web servers 11 and 16, Fig. 1; col. 3, lines 50 – 60] connected to a

communications network [data access network system 100 is an Internet network system; col. 3, lines 39 – 49], by at least one client station [web browser 40 can be embodied in a computer system that executes a set of web browser software; col. 4, lines 22 – 36] connected to the network, comprising the following steps, implemented in the server station:

receiving an object request originating from a client station [web server 11 receives HTTP commands or requests through the network 18; col. 5; lines 10 – 15], the object request including information for identifying a data-processing object accessible via the server station [URL addresses for the device 10 specify the web pages and application and control programs in the web server 11; col. 5, lines 15 – 21];

sending an object response to the client station, the object response including information for describing a user interface [access the resource, HTTP requests are made to the object's URL address. The web page of an object is the default operation of the object that can be accessed by simply doing an HTTP GET or POST request on the URL that names the object; col. 7, lines 6 – 19], the information being associated with programmed functions, the interface allowing a user to use the object [a web page that provides an interface to the object. The object also includes a plurality of properties, each of which can represent an interface to one of the functions of the object; col. 2, lines 43 – 54];

receiving a method-execution request [manager 31 receives the request URL; col. 11, lines 33 – 46] originating from the client station [HTTP commands or requests are used by the web clients (e.g., the web browser 40 or the web server 16 in the device

15) to obtain information from the device 10 or to invoke some control or application programs stored in the device 10 to perform specified functions; col. 5, lines 36 – 52], the method-execution request including the information for identifying the object and at least one command which can be understood by the object [interface manager 31 obtains the object name, object type, property name, argument name and value, and return result format information from the request URL; col. 11, lines 34 – 46].

6. As to claim 12, Mayo teaches executing the at least one command received from the client station, on a data-processing object [interface manager 31, at the step 310, uses the property information 321 to determine which entry point on the object implementation 320 to call; col. 11, lines 60 – 65];

sending a method-execution response to the client station, the method-execution response containing data indicative of the result of the execution of the at least one command on the object [web server 11 in the device 10 does the task and returns results dynamically to the client in an HTML stream; col. 8, lines 39 – 56].

7. As to claim 13, Mayo teaches the at least one command, which can be understood by the object and which is contained in the method-execution request, consists in the designation of a function of the data-processing object in question, and in the passing of values given to parameters associated with the designated function [argument-name and argument-value provide data inputs to the function invoked; col. 8, lines 10 – 19 and col. 11, lines 33 – 46].

8. As to claims 14 and 15, Mayo teaches the information for identifying an object comprises an electronic address indicative of the storage location of the object is a URL-type address [each of the objects 80-83 has a unique URL address and can be invoked separately; col. 8, line 66 – col. 9, line 13].

9. As to claim 16, Mayo teaches the information for describing a user interface is data expressed in a data-processing communications language of the "markup language" type [object 50 to communicate with other objects by invoking interfaces using, for example, the HTML forms interface; col. 8, lines 33 – 38].

10. As to claim 18, Mayo teaches the data-processing object is associated in the server station with an electronic document containing the information for describing at least one user interface and the associated programmed functions [each of the objects 32-32n representing a resource of the device 10 has a web page...This means that each of the objects 32-32n can be accessed by an external web browser or other objects/resources using a URL address or link via the network interface 23 of the web server; col. 7, lines 6 – 19].

11. As to claim 20, Mayo teaches the electronic address indicative of the storage location of the object is an address of "URL" type associated with the electronic document [col. 8, line 66 – col. 9, line 13].

12. As to claim 21, Mayo teaches the communications network is a network of the Internet type [col. 3, lines 39 – 49].

13. As to claim 22, Mayo teaches the client station and the server station communicate by using a communications protocol of the "hypertext transfer protocol" (HTTP) type [web server 11 exchanges messages with the web clients (such as the web browser 40) using the HTTP protocol on the network 18; col. 5, lines 3 – 19], and in that the messages exchanged between the server station and the client station are HTTP messages [col. 5, lines 36 – 50].

14. As to claim 1, Mayo teaches a method for remotely using a data-processing object [object 50, Fig. 5; col. 7, lines 61 – 67] accessible via a server station [web servers 11 and 16, Fig. 1; col. 3, lines 50 – 60] connected to a communications network [data access network system 100; col. 3, lines 39 – 49], from a client station [web browser 40; col. 4, lines 22 – 36] connected to the network, the method comprising the following steps:

sending an object request to the server station [HTTP commands or requests are used by the web clients; col. 5, lines 36 – 51], the object request including information for identifying an object accessible via the server station [URL addresses for the device 10 specify the web pages and application and control programs in the web server 11; col. 5, lines 15 – 21];

receiving an object response sent by the server station, the object response including information for describing a user interface [access the resource, HTTP requests are made to the object's URL address. The web page of an object is the default operation of the object that can be accessed by simply doing an HTTP GET or POST request on the URL that names the object; col. 7, lines 6 – 19], the information being associated with programmed functions, the interface allowing a user to use the object [a web page that provides an interface to the object. The object also includes a plurality of properties, each of which can represent an interface to one of the functions of the object; col. 2, lines 43 – 54];

starting up the user interface on the client station [web browser 40 includes a web page 44 that enables a user of the browser 40 to select objects and URL (Universal Resource Locator) links rendered on the display 42; col. 4, lines 8 – 22];

executing at least one function associated with at least one element of the user interface, in response to the activation of the at least one element by a user [enter information into forms rendered on the display 42; col. 4, lines 8 – 21 and col. 5, lines 36 – 50];

sending a method-execution request to the server station [manager 31 receives the request URL; col. 11, lines 33 – 46], in response to the execution of at least one programmed function associated with the at least one active element of the user interface [HTTP commands or requests are used by the web clients (e.g., the web browser 40 or the web server 16 in the device 15) to obtain information from the device 10 or to invoke some control or application programs stored in the device 10 to perform

specified functions; col. 5, lines 36 – 52], the method-execution request including the information for identifying the object and at least one command which can be understood by the object [interface manager 31 obtains the object name, object type, property name, argument name and value, and return result format information from the request URL; col. 11, lines 34 – 46].

15. As to claim 2, Mayo teaches receiving a method-execution response sent by the server station in response to the method-execution request, the method-execution response containing data indicative of the result of the execution of the at least one command which can be understood by the object [web server 11 in the device 10 does the task and returns results dynamically to the client in an HTML stream; col. 8, lines 39 – 56];

decoding the data contained in the method-execution response and updating the user interface, if necessary [Data is returned to the client as a dynamically generated HTML stream, thus removing the need for storage-consuming static web pages; col. 8, lines 33 – 38].

16. As to claims 3 and 4, these are rejected for the same reasons as claims 14 and 15 above.

17. As to claim 5, this is rejected for the same reasons as claim 16 above.

18. As to claim 8, Mayo teaches the at least one command consists in the designation of a function of the object, and in the passing of values given to parameters associated with the designated function [argument-name and argument-value provide data inputs to the function invoked; col. 8, lines 10 – 19 and col. 11, lines 33 – 46].

19. As to claim 9, this is rejected for the same reasons as claim 21 above.

20. As to claim 10, this is rejected for the same reasons as claim 22 above.

21. As to claims 24 and 25, these are apparatus claims that correspond to method claims 1 and 2; note the rejection to claims 1 and 2 above, which also meet these apparatus claims.

22. As to claims 27 and 28, these are apparatus claims that correspond to method claims 11 and 12; note the rejection to claims 11 and 12 above, which also meet these apparatus claims.

23. As to claim 31, Mayo teaches a device for browsing on the Internet (Web browser) including a device for remotely using a data-processing object [col. 5, lines 36 – 52].

24. As to claim 32, Mayo teaches a client station linked to a communications network, including a device for remotely using a data-processing object [col. 4, lines 22 – 36].

25. As to claim 33, Mayo teaches a server station linked to a communications network, including a device for executing a function on a data-processing object [col. 3, lines 50 – 60].

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

26. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

27. **Claims 7 and 23 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mayo in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,480,882 to McAdam et al. [hereinafter McAdam].**

28. As to claims 7 and 23, Mayo teaches the programmed functions associated with the information for describing a user interface can be implemented in various languages such as Java and Perl scripts [col. 8, lines 19 – 32].

29. Mayo does not specifically disclose JavaScript.

However, McAdam teaches implementing program functions for describing a user interface in the JavaScript programming language [col. 5, lines 1 – 13].

30. It would have been it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention that the programmed functions of Mayo can be implemented in JavaScript as taught by McAdam because JavaScripts can quickly deliver interactive Web forms with a greater degree of efficiency.

31. **Claims 6, 17 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mayo in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,571,201 to Royal et al. [hereinafter Royal].**

32. As to claim 6, 17 and 19, Mayo teaches the HTML communication language [col. 5, lines 3 – 20].

33. Although Mayo teaches the invention substantially, Mayo does not specifically teach the XML communication language.

However, Royal teaches the XML communication language [col. 6, line 49 – col. 7, line 20 and col. 3, lines 28 – 43].

34. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to apply the teaching of using the XML communication language as taught by Royal to the invention of Mayo because XML is a meta-markup language providing a set of rules for describing data and permits data transfers between computer systems when that data must be translated into machine or binary format for subsequent processing by one or both such computer systems [col. 4, lines 43 - 47 and col. 5, lines 5 - 10 of Royal].

Conclusion

35. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Li B. Zhen whose telephone number is (571) 272-3768. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Fri, 8:30am - 5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Meng-Ai An can be reached on (571) 272-3756. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Li B. Zhen
Examiner
Art Unit 2126

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